

MONTH TROOPS WOULD BEGIN TO BE REPATRIATED TO ZIMBABWE, FROM BOTH THE EXTRA TROOPS DISPATCHED AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF LAURENT KABILA AND THOSE BEING PULLED BACK UNDER PHASE TWO. HE SAID MONUC HAD ASKED ALLIED FORCES NOT TO OCCUPY PWETO EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE ENTITLED TO DO SO UNDER KAMPALA AND THE HARARE SUBPLANS. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT ZIMBABWE WOULD COMPLY.

17. (C) HAMADZIRIPI AS USUAL REMAINED SUSPICIOUS OF BOTH UGANDA AND RWANDA, THOUGH NOT DISAPPOINTED WITH THEIR FALLING OUT WITH EACH OTHER. UGANDA HAD SO FAR
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PAGE 04 HARARE 01051 01 OF 02 191126Z
WITHDRAWN 550 SOLDIERS, NOT THE TWO BRIGADES IT WAS TOUTING. RWANDA HAD OFFERED TO WITHDRAW 200 KILOMETERS ONLY BECAUSE THIS WOULD SHORTEN ITS OVERSTRETCHED LINES OF RESUPPLY. HE SAID THAT ZIMBABWE TOOK RWANDA'S SECURITY CONCERNS SERIOUSLY, CITING SOME DIRECT BILATERAL EXCHANGES ON THE MATTER, BUT AT THE SAME TIME ESSENTIALLY DISMISSED THEM AS A PRETEXT. WE ARGUED THAT THEY HAD TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. RWANDA'S FIT OF ANGER WITH ZAMBIA FOR ALLOWING SUSPECTED GENOCIDAIRES TO ESCAPE WAS A FURTHER SIGN OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THAT COUNTRY REGARDED THE ISSUE.

18. (C) HAMADZIRIPI
DISMISSED REPORTS THAT SERIOUS DIFFERENCES HAD EMERGED BETWEEN ZIMBABWE AND ANGOLA IN THE AFTERMATH OF LAURENT KABILA'S ASSASSINATION. HE ALSO DENIED THAT ZIMBABWE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION. ZIMBABWE WAS ONLY THE CHAIR OF WHAT WAS A SADC COMMISSION WHICH INCLUDED ALL THE ALLIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, HAMADZIRIPI AT ONE POINT SEEMED TO HINT THAT THE ANGOLANS COULD HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION.

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CONFIDENTIAL PTO4415

PAGE 01 HARARE 01051 02 OF 02 191127Z
ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	USNW-00	DODE-00	DOTE-00
	WHA-00	DS-00	EB-00	FAAE-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	INR-00
	VCE-00	M-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	PM-00	ACE-00	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/003W		
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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8456
INFO NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY PRIORITY
RWANDA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 HARARE 001051

SIPDIS

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR JENDAYI FRAZER

LONDON FOR CHARLES GURNEY

PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS

E.O. 12958: DECL: (1.6X5)
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SUBJECT: CANADIAN REPORT OF CONVERSATION ON CONGO
WITH ASSISTANT SADC SPECIAL ENVOY

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HARARE 01051 02 OF 02 191127Z

19. (C) HAMADZIRIPI SAID THAT THE REASON ANGOLAN ARMED FORCES COMMANDER DE MATOS HAD BEEN SACKED WAS FOR HIS FREE-LANCING WITH UGANDA. HE HAD GONE TOO FAR IN HIS OVERTURES TO UGANDA WITHOUT DOS SANTOS' APPROVAL AND THE PRESIDENT ALSO SAW HIM AS A POTENTIAL RIVAL. ZIMBABWE WAS NOW CONFIDENT THAT ANGOLA HAD "DRAWN A LINE IN THE SAND" AT MBANDAKA AGAINST THE MLC AND UGANDA. ZIMBABWEAN AND ANGOLAN TROOPS WERE WORKING HARMONIOUSLY IN KINSHASA, LUBUMBASHI AND WHEREVER ELSE THEY WERE STATIONED TOGETHER.

110. (C) AS FOR THE POSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS, HAMADZIRIPI EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE US POSITION, WHICH HE PERCEIVES AS HAVING EVOLVED IN FAVORABLE DIRECTION UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. THE UK IS STILL PERCEIVED AS A SPOILER. BELGIUM WAS GOING ALL-OUT TO PLAY A LARGE ROLE, IN CONTRAST TO THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT THERE, WHICH HAD BACKED AWAY FROM AFRICA. BELGIUM WAS OFFERING, FOR EXAMPLE, TO HOST AND PAY FOR THE INTER-CONGOLESE DIALOGUE. HE SAW THE BELGIANS AS BEING SYMPATHETIC TO THE UNARMED OPPOSITION.

HAMADZIRIPI WAS ODDLY RETICENT ABOUT FRENCH POLICY. HE
ALLOWED THAT THE FRENCH DID NOT LIKE KAGAME, BUT SEEMED
TO PERCEIVE THE FRENCH POSITION AS BEING NOT ENTIRELY
FAVORABLE TO THE ZIMBABWEAN POSITION. [END TEXT OF
REPORT.]

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